

Message Text

SECRET

PAGE 01 PEKING 01709 111006Z
ACTION SS-25

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PASS EA/PRCM

E.O. 11652: XGDS-3
TAGS: CASC, PFOR, SHUM CH, US

SUBJ: SECRETARY'S VISIT; PRC EXIT PERMISSION FOR AMERICAN CITIZENS:
CHAO YUN-HUI, BERTHA LIU AND DANIEL KELLY

REF: (A) 75 PEKING 1936 (B) PEKING 1708

1. USLO RECOMMENDS THAT THE CASES OF CHAO YUN-HUI, BERTHA
LIU AND DANIEL KELLY BE RAISED DURING SECREATRY'S VISIT.

2. ALL ARE AMERICAN CITIZENS WHO TO DATE HAVE BEEN DENIED
PERMISSION TO LEAVE PRC. KELLY WAS ARRESTED AFTER AN
UNAUTHORIZED 1974 VISIT TO USLO TO APPLY FOR US PASSPORT.
USLO HAS HAD NO CONTACT SINCE THEN, BUT HAS HEARD THAT HE
IS UNDERGOING SOME FORM OF PENAL SERVITUDE. CHAO YUN-HUI
WAS ISSUED U.S. PASSPORT IN MARCH OF THIS YEAR, AFTER WHICH
USLO LOST CONTACT WITH HER. USLO HAS BEEN UNABLE TO CONTACT
BERTHA LIU, WHO AT LAST REPORT HAS BEEN IMPRISONED IN 1970.

IN BOTH KELLY AND CHAO CASES, PRC FOREIGN MINISTRY
HAS TOLD USLO THAT CHINESE GOVERNMENT CONSIDERS THEM
TO BE CHINESE CITIZENS AND DOES NOT RECOGNIZE THEIR

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CLAIMS OR DOCUMENTATION AS US CITIZENS. FOREIGN
MINISTRY HAS NOT RESPONDED TO SEVERAL USLO REQUESTS
FOR INFORMATION ON BERTHA LIU, ALTHOUGH AN MFA OFFICIAL
IN 1971 INDICATED TO THE BRITISH THAT THE PRC REGARDED
HER AS A US CITIZEN. DETAILS OF EACH CASE ARE CON-
TAINED IN REF B.

4. A CONFRONTATION WITH THE PRC OVER THE CITIZENSHIP STATUS OF THESE THREE INDIVIDUALS WOULD BE UNPRODUCTIVE, BUT USLO BELIEVES THE CHINESE MAY RESPOND TO A HUMANITARIAN REQUEST TO GRANT THEM PERMISSION TO LEAVE PRC USING WHATEVER TRAVEL DOCUMENTATION PRC CONSIDERS APPROPRIATE. DURING FRG CHANCELLOR SCHMIDT'S 1975 VISIT TO PRC, REQUEST TO ALLOW A NUMBER OF PRC RESIDENTS TO JOIN RELATIVES IN FRG WAS SUCCESSFUL.

5. THE DEPARTMENT SHOULD NOTE THAT IN ALL CASES THERE ARE OTHER FAMILY MEMBERS INVOLVED. BERTHA LIU'S HUSBAND AND UNMARRIED DAUGHTER ARE BOTH STILL LIVING IN CHINA. DANIEL KELLY IS MARRIED AND HAS THREE CHILDREN AGES 12, 10, AND 6.

CHAO YUN-HUI IS MARRIED WITH NO CHILDREN.

6. SECRETARY MIGHT WISH TO CONSIDER BRIEFLY RAISING THESE CASES WITH APPROPRIATE OFFICIAL DURING VISIT, LEAVING FURTHER DISCUSSION TO COUNTERPART TALKS. WOODCOCK

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NNN

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